

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/655,665

Applicant(s)

SASAI, TOSHIHIRO

Examiner

Kelly L. Jerabek

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After Final Amendment Filed 7/20/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6, 7 and 9-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 September 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted: Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/3/2004</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-7 and 9-11 allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record fail to anticipate or render obvious the following technical features as recited in the highlighted claims:

Re claim 6, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an image processing apparatus for generating new image data comprising a replacement unit and an interpolation unit, wherein when target calculation pixels used to calculate the interpolated pixel value include a pixel whose replacement information indicates, an arithmetic expression is used, which has a reduced weight coefficient comparing to a normal arithmetic expression for calculating the interpolated pixel value.

Re claim 7, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an image processing apparatus for generating new image data comprising a replacement unit, an interpolation unit, a compensation value calculation unit and a compensation unit, wherein when target calculation pixels used to calculate the interpolated pixel value include a pixel whose replacement information indicates, an arithmetic expression is used, which has a

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reduced weight coefficient comparing to a normal arithmetic expression for calculating the interpolated pixel value.

Re claim 9, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an image processing apparatus for generating new image data comprising a replacement unit, an interpolation unit and a region value calculation unit, wherein the region value calculation unit sequentially receives pixel values forming the replacement information-added image data output from the replacement unit in parallel with each other by a predetermined number of pixel lines as pixel blocks for single pixel columns to form a sub-matrix from a predetermined number of pixel blocks received successfully.

Re claim 10, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an image processing apparatus for generating new image data comprising a replacement unit, an interpolation unit, a compensation value calculation unit, a compensation unit and a region value calculation unit, wherein the region value calculation unit sequentially receives pixel values forming the replacement information-added image data output from the replacement unit in parallel with each other by a predetermined number of pixel lines as pixel blocks for single pixel columns to form a sub-matrix from a predetermined number of pixel blocks received successfully.

Re claim 11, the prior art fails to teach or suggest an image processing apparatus for generating new image data comprising a replacement unit, an

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interpolation unit and a defect information generation unit, wherein the defect information generation unit uses relative pixel position information with respect to an immediately preceding defective pixel position as information indicating a defective pixel position as information indicating a defective pixel position of the image sensor to determine whether each pixel forming the original image data is a defective pixel.

Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7312**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached at **(571) 272-7382**. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is **(571) 273-8300**. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at **(571) 273-7312**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KLJ


THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER